

**CITY OF FLAT ROCK
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

Ordinance No. 432

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CODE OF THE CITY OF FLAT
ROCK BY AMENDING CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE II, OF THE
CODE BY ADDING SECTIONS 14-8, 14-9, and 14-10,
PROHIBITING CERTAIN TETHERING PRACTICES OF
DOGS AND PENALTY.**

THE CITY OF FLAT ROCK ORDAINS:

SECTION I. Chapter 14, Article II of the Code of the City of Flat Rock is hereby amended by adding Sections 14-8, 14-9 and 14-10 which Sections shall read as follows:

Section 14-8. Definition of Tethering.

Tethering means the practice of securing a dog to a stationary object by means of a metal chain, rope, strap, leash, coated steel cable, or other means of restraint for keeping the dog restrained. Tethering does not mean walking the dog on a leash, or for temporary grooming, or other professional service.

Section 14-9. Tethering.

It shall be unlawful for a person to:

- (1) Continuously tether a dog for more than three (3) hours per day unless within the reasonable judgment of the enforcement officer a determination is made that the physical welfare of the animal is not seriously endangered.
- (2) Tether a dog on a tether made of anything but a coated steel cable more than ten (10) feet in length;

- (3) Use a tether or any assembly or attachments thereto to tether a dog that shall weigh more than ten percent (10%) of the animal's body weight, or due to weight, inhibit the free movement of the animal within the area tethered; or
- (4) Tether a dog on anything except a buckle-type collar or harness, or tethering on a choke chain or around the dog's neck, or tethered to training collars such as choke or pinch-style collars, or in such a manner as to cause injury, strangulation, or entanglement of the dog on fences, trees, or other man made or natural obstacles; or
- (5) Tether a dog without access to shade when sunlight is likely to cause overheating, or appropriate shelter to provide insulation and protection against cold and dampness when the atmospheric temperature falls below 40 degrees Fahrenheit, or to tether a dog without securing its food and water supply and so that it cannot be tipped over by the tether; or
- (6) Tether a dog in an open area where it can be teased by persons or an open area that does not provide the dog protection from attack by other animals; or
- (7) Tether a dog in an area where bare earth is present and no steps have been taken to prevent the surface from becoming wet and muddy in the event of precipitation.
- (8) Tether a dog less than four (4) months of age.
- (9) Tether more than one (1) dog to a single tether.
- (10) Tether a dog to a stationary object which would allow a dog to come within five (5) feet of any property line.
- (11) Tether a dog without a swivel attached and/or equipped on both ends.

Section 14-10. Penalty.

A person found responsible for violating Section 14-9 shall be deemed responsible for a municipal civil infraction; any person found liable for violating this Section three or more times in a one (1) year time span shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

SECTION II. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances, Code of the City of Flat Rock, or parts of the Code of the City of Flat Rock, not consistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION III. This ordinance shall be published in the News Herald newspaper as required by Charter on the 13th day of January, 2016, but in no event shall be effective earlier than ten (10) days after enactment.



Jonathan D. Dropiewski, Mayor



Meaghan K. Armstrong, City Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the ordinance adopted by the Council of the City of Flat Rock at a meeting thereof on January 4, 2016, the original of which proceedings is on file in my office.



Meaghan K. Armstrong, City Clerk